



Major League Baseball
Oakland at Anaheim,
FSNW(23), 7:30 p.m.

SPORTS

Oregon Daily
Emerald

Women flounder in first round at NCAAs

The Oregon women's golf team is in dead last heading into today's second round after shooting a 22-over-par 310 Wednesday

By Tim Pyle
Sports Reporter

The first round of the NCAA Championship on Wednesday was a nightmare for the Oregon women's golf team.

Fortunately for the Ducks, they still have three rounds to bring their sweet dreams to life at the University Ridge Golf Course in Madison, Wis., beginning with today's second round and running through Saturday.

Oregon shot a 22-over-par 310 on Day One to find itself dead last in the 19-team field. It was not the start the experienced Ducks expected of themselves after attaining a sev-

enth-place finish, the best ever in school history, at the 1997 nationals with the exact same lineup they are using this season.

"We are trying too hard and trying to make it happen rather than letting it happen," Oregon head coach Renee Baumgartner said. "This team feels lots of pressure to do better than last year. A lot can change real quickly in golf, and there are still 54 holes to play."

Defending national champion Arizona

State, which is ranked No. 2 in the MasterCard Collegiate Golf Rankings, opened up a seven-stroke lead in the championship by firing an 11-under-par 277. The Sun Devils' Grace Park, just a freshman, led the team with a seven-under-par 65 that tied her for first atop the individual leaderboard with Duke's Jenny Chuasiriporn. Arizona State has won four of the last five titles.

Indiana shot a four-under-par 284 to claim second place after the first 18 holes. Florida and Duke tied for third at 285, and No. 1 Arizona and Florida found themselves sharing fifth

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Leaders

■ OREGON:	
Patterson	76
■ INDIVIDUAL:	
Park, ASU	65
Chuasiriporn, Duke	65
■ TOP 5 TEAMS:	
1. ASU	277
2. Indiana	284
3. Duke	285
T3. Florida	285
19. Oregon	310

Oregon: Go the distance for sprints

The Pacific-10 Conference Track and Field Championships begin Saturday in Palo Alto, Calif., and the Oregon women enter the meet assured of not winning titles in either the 100 or 200-meter sprints for a fifth consecutive year.

In fact, in the past 15 postseason meets the Ducks have entered, they've come away with titles in the short sprints just twice: LaReina Woods' 100-meter championship in 1993, and Rosie Williams' title in the 200 in 1989.

The reason head coach Tom Heinonen can forget about scoring points in the 100 and 200 meters is clear. Oregon had just two women post acceptable qualifying times for the 200, with Tish Henes the top-ranked Duck at 15th, while no Oregon woman was able to meet the Pac-10 100-meter qualifying standard of 12.04 seconds.

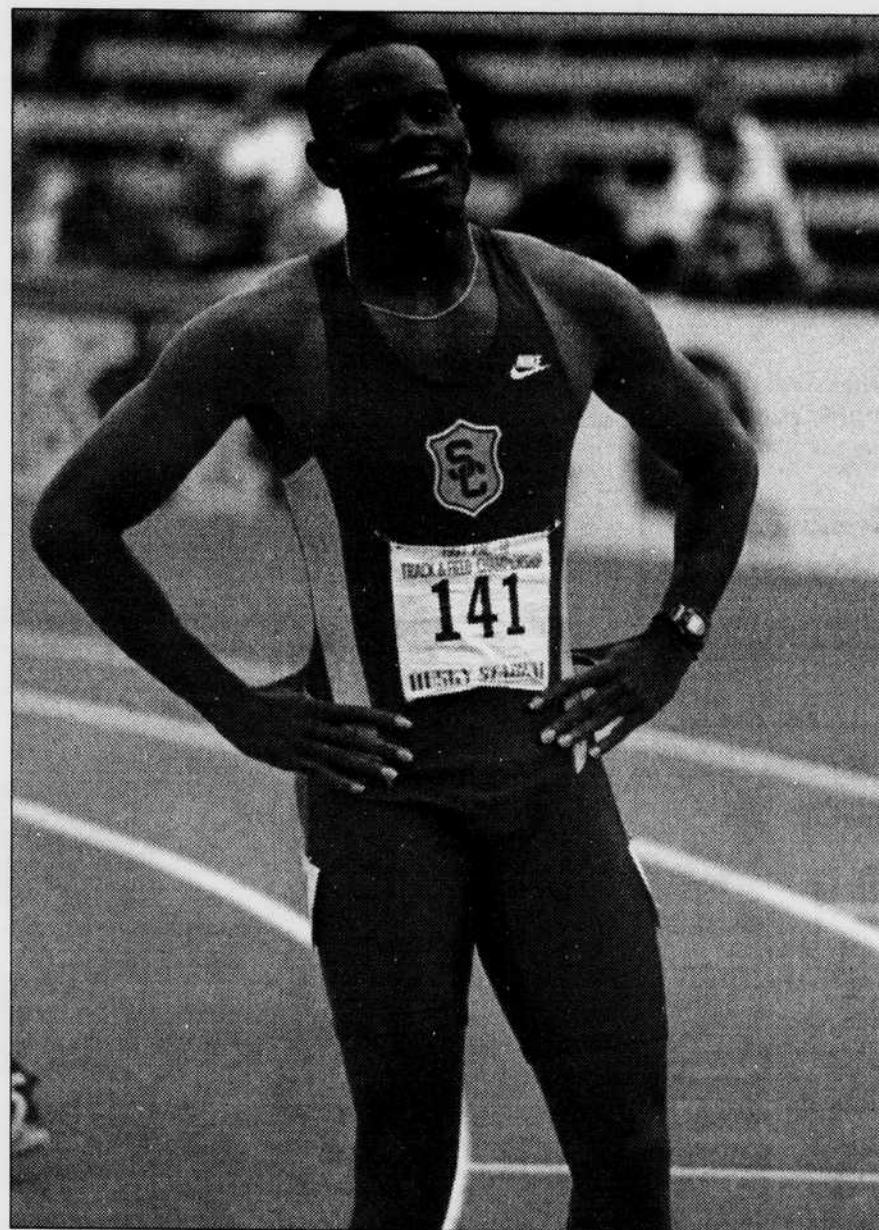
Several unavoidable factors have led to Oregon's weakness at the short sprints this season, including an injury to 400-meter runner Sue Morris that caused Oregon sprint coach Mark Stream to scramble to assemble competitive entries in every event. Add to that the transfer of a talented walk-on before the season, and Heinonen and Stream have a legitimate excuse for scoring just three times in the short sprints at dual meets this season.

"Obviously we need some sprinters, so that's been a heavy emphasis on our recruiting," Stream said.

And with the prospects of adding recruits Alexis Yeater, who has times of 11.85 and 24.35 in the 100 and 200, respectively, Endio Abrante, who has run a 24.40 in the 200 meters and Taryn Tarver, who

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Athletes look to defend titles at Pac-10s



Southern California's Jerome Davis will look to repeat his 1997 400-meter title at this weekend's Pac-10 Championships in Palo Alto, Calif.

Washington State's Ian Waltz returns to the Pacific-10 Championships to defend his 1997 shot put and discus titles

By Alex Pond and Rob Moseley
Oregon Daily Emerald

Don't be surprised if this weekend's Pacific-10 Conference Track and Field Championships look a lot like last season's meet.

On the men's side, 10 different athletes return with hopes of successfully defending titles won in 1997, with Washington State's Ian Waltz looking to defend titles in two events.

Waltz dominated the throws last season, winning both the shot put and discus, and returns as the favorite in each event during this season's conference meet that is set to take place Saturday and Sunday in Palo Alto, Calif.

On the women's side, seven returning champions will look to defend 1997 titles, including double winners Grazyna Penc of Southern California (800 and 1,500 meters), Amy Skieresz of Arizona (3,000 and 5,000 meters), Joanna Hayes of UCLA (100- and 400-meter hurdles) and Suzy Powell of UCLA (discus and javelin).

If last weekend's heptathlon and decathlon championships were any indication, track and field fans can look forward to seeing several repeat champions.

California's Ross Bomben successfully defended last season's decathlon championship by winning the multi-events competition with a personal best 7,808 points, while Stanford's Trayce Lawyer won her second straight conference heptathlon title with a school record 5,809 points.

As far as the team races go, they could look very similar to last season as well.

The USC men claimed their first con-

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High temperatures, humidity prove too much for Oregon cyclists

Rusty Beall dropped out of both the men's road race and criterium at the National Collegiate Cycling Competition

By Eric Collins and Jeanette N. Diaz
Freelance Sports Reporters

Succumbing to the sweltering 90-degree heat and humidity of South Carolina, the three Oregon Club Sports cycling team's national qualifiers competed below expectations last weekend at the National Collegiate Cycling Competition.

Amy Piasek-Kluge, one of two Oregon women qualifiers, was the only Duck to finish a race, placing 60th in the 52.2-mile

road race. In the same race, Eriel Hoffmeier did not finish.

Piasek-Kluge said cyclists from the Southeast, especially Texas, were the only competitors not affected by the weather.

"You stood still and there was just water dripping from you," Piasek-Kluge said.

For freshman cycling sensation Rusty Beall, a flat tire 35 miles into the 78.3-mile men's road race — not the weather — forced him to drop out of the competition. Beall, cycling in the lead pack before the tire trouble, said he had to wait too long for a replacement tire. With the leaders 2 1/2 miles ahead after the replacement, Beall said he dropped out in order to conserve energy for the next day's criterium competition.

The criterium takes place on a one-kilometer course, where riders jockey for position for 60 minutes and then race five additional laps to the finish.

But if the leaders lap other riders during the 60-minute period, the slower riders are pulled out of the race.

In the women's criterium, both Piasek-Kluge and Hoffmeier were pulled.

Beall was out for redemption in the men's criterium, which he said he would have received had the weather cooperated. Pacing with last year's national champions

with five laps to go, Beall began to overheat. Passing out and unable to continue, Beall saw the leaders fly by as he once again dropped out.

"It was a disappointing weekend," he said. "Had it been 60 degrees and raining, we would have seen more Northwest guys in the lead."

Swoosh Challenge

After taking advantage of its home turf in the April 18 regionals, an Oregon ROTC team placed fourth out of 11 teams in the Nike Swoosh Challenge National Championships held in Los Angeles last weekend.

The Duck team of four was composed of

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